MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 JULY 1981

Lebanese Crisis

Heavy fighting has continued between Israeli and Palestinian forces in southern Lebanon. Beirut radio reported that violent artillery exchanges continued throughout the evening of 20 July, with the Israelis shelling An-Nabatiyah, Tyre and other targets and the Palestinians rocketing northern Israeli settlements and border strip towns. Earlier in the day, Jerusalem radio reported that Israeli aircraft renewed their attacks on Palestinian positions, hitting targets in the An-Nabatiyah area. Asserting that the current conflict is escalating, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported intensive Israeli shelling of Palestinian positions throughout the night of 20-21 July, with warships pounding Al-Qasimiyah and the Az-Zahrani area and ground artillery firing at Al-Qal'ah, Ar-Rayhan, Ar-Rashidiyah Camp and Beaufort Castle. A statement by the Palestinian joint forces political commissioner on 20 July, broadcast by the Voice of Palestine, claimed that Palestinian forces have managed to repair bridges and roads damaged in the recent Israeli attacks so that they now have more bridges over the Az-Zahrani and Litani Rivers than they had before the attacks began. Although he asserted that the Palestinians have intensified their shelling of Israeli settlements and military positions, Jerusalem radio reported a slowdown in the Katyusha fire on Israeli settlements during the night of 20-21 July, saying intermittent volleys caused no casualties or damage.

Cease-Fire Efforts--KUNA, citing a Lebanese Government source, reported on 21 July that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told the Saudi ambassador to Lebanon that the PLO is prepared to accept a cease-fire, pledging that the PLO will stop its rocket and artillery attacks on northern Israel if the Israelis cease their attacks on Lebanon. Noting that the United States and Saudi Arabia are exerting parallel efforts with Israel and the PLO respectively to arrange a cease-fire, KUNA said the Saudi ambassador has been holding contacts with 'Arafat and Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis, assuring them that a cease-fire can be imposed on Israel through diplomatic efforts. The report also said UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim plans to embark on another cease-fire initiative within the framework of the U.S.-Saudi efforts. Earlier, AFP also reported the possibility of a cease-fire, citing Lebanese Information Minister Michel Iddih as saying that a de facto end to hostilities is imminent.

Jerusalem radio expressed the opinion that during its meeting on the morning of 21 July the Israeli Cabinet is unlikely to accede to the U.S. request for a cease-fire. The radio indicated that the Cabinet will support Prime Minister Menahem Begin's argument that a cease-fire will allow the Palestinians to reorganize and regroup for further attacks on Israel. In an interview broadcast by Jerusalem radio on 20 July, Alignment leader Shim'un Peres said Israel will make any cease-fire conditional on an end to all PLO "terrorist actions," not merely the firing across the Lebanese-Israeli border.

'Arafat Statement--After a meeting with UNIFIL Commander Gen William Callaghan, Yasir 'Arafat told a press conference that Israel's new "war" against the Palestinians, which started with the air raids on 12 July, is being waged with U.S. encouragement. In his statement, broadcast by the Voice of Palestine, 'Arafat said there is a limit to the Palestinians' patience in the face of Israel's "savage and inhuman" attacks. The PLO leader said Prime Minister Begin is talking about a final solution for the Palestinians, just as Hitler urged for the Jews.

Lebanese UN Resolution--According to Beirut radio, Lebanon is to submit a draft resolution to the United Nations calling for an immediate end to hostile actions against Lebanon and for respect of its territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty. It condemns Israel's attacks and policy of preemptive strikes and calls on member states to impose sanctions against Israel until the latter complies with the Security Council resolutions and abides by the 1949 armistice agreement. The resolution requests the UN secretary general to work for an immediate cease-fire agreement. The radio reported that Lebanese Ambassador to the United Nations Ghassan Tuwayni, who will present the resolution, held a press conference in which he disclosed that Lebanon is cooperating with the U.S. Government and has no reason to say the latter is plotting against it unless the United States "disappoints us."

Tzipori on Shelling From Syria--According to HA'ARETZ, Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori said Israel will have to wait and see whether the firing at Israel from Syria on 18 July was a one-time occurrence or whether it will be repeated. Tzipori asserted that in the latter case, Israel will have no choice but to deal with fire from that direction as well.

Egyptian Aid to Palestinians--In remarks to a Jerusalem radio correspondent, Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada said the medical aid Egypt is offering the PLO for those injured in the Israeli bombings in Lebanon does not originate in any political rapprochement and is purely humanitarian aid. In an exclusive statement to MENA, PLO representative in Cairo Sa'id Kamal said Egypt's immediate response to the request for medical aid is within the framework of its denunciation of the Israeli aggression and part of its support for the Palestinian cause in the international arena. The Voice of Palestine radio cited a Palestinian resistance source as saying, however, that the PLO has not entrusted anyone with making such a request of Egypt. Declaring reports to this effect as unfounded, the source said aid from the Egyptian people will be accepted, but not from the Egyptian Government.

Libyan Aid--According to JANA, Libya intends to compensate the Palestinian resistance, the Lebanese National Movement and the Lebanese people for the financial and military losses caused by the Israeli raids.

Iran

Tehran radio reported that presidential candidate Habibollah Asghar-Oladi was slightly wounded when gunmen attempted to assassinate him on a Tehran street. One of his assailants was killed and the two others were arrested, the radio said. Asghar-Oladi's condition is satisfactory. Tehran radio reported that two Mojahedin-e Khalq members were arrested in Quchan during a raid on some of the organization's communal houses, while Shiraz radio said 15 Mojahedin-e Khalq members were sentenced to lashes and prison terms by the Estahbanat Islamic Revolution Court.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN NABAVI INTERVIEWED 20 JUL

LD201514 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] Government spokesman Behzad Nabavi took part in a press conference this morning attended by domestic and foreign reporters. The Central News Unit reports that Mr Nabavi first referred to the imposed war by the Iraqi regime on Iran and said: The most important issue for the Islamic Republic is still the war by Saddam's regime against our country. Our efforts are all toward giving priority to this problem and directing all our attention to the warfronts. He added: The combatants of our Islamic country during the past week gained certain victories, foiled all Iraqi attacks, and recently our air force attacked Iraqi powerplants and dealt a heavy blow to Saddam's regime. On the other hand, Iraq has lost its offensive capabilities and is either retreating or remaining inactive on all fronts. On the political scene, Iraq has launched a propaganda campaign against us and pretends that we are being supported by the West. It is obvious to anyone who pays attention that the West is in coordination with Iraq.

The government spokesman then spoke about the price of commodities and inflation and said: Fortunately, inflation is slowing down from 26 to 28 percent at the beginning of this year to a current rate of 23 percent. We hope that through other measures and with continuation of our past efforts we will be able to decrease the inflation rate even more. Of course, you must note that other countries of the region, despite the fact that they are not involved in wars or crises, are suffering from higher inflation rates. On the other hand, shortages are being created by profiteers who want to pretend that the government is not able to cope with the import of goods. In this way, they want to say that nationalized foreign trade is damaging to the country. There are other shortages but people should accept them because of the war situation. For example, the gas shortage that has currently become a problem for the people is caused by two factors: First, gas production sources are located in war-inflicted areas; and, second, gas distribution in provincial towns is done in a very inefficient way. We have tried to increase gas rations in provincial towns since until now only Tehran residents did not suffer any gas shortages.

Regarding the country's budget, approved by the Islamic Majlis, Mr Nabavi said: The Majlis amended the budget and some of it was reduced; the budget is now reduced to (?303) billion tomans. We will try to economize in our current budget. Regarding development projects, we decided to accept the figure approved by the Majlis. Also, including some notes, the Majlis has given the government a free hand. I think we will be able to work with the budget successfully. At the end of this conference, Mr Behzad Nabavi, the government spokesman, answered our correspondent's questions and we draw your attention to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Navabi, last week a large part of [name indistinct] group and several other groups were discovered by the people and the guards corps. They were arrested and a considerable amount of their documents and equipment were confiscated. What is the current situation at present with regard to the Peykar and Mojahedin-e Khalq groups?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The blow dealt to the Peykar organization was a fatal and important one which they did not expect. Many of those arrested were very shaken psychologically because of this and repented their past actions. They gave all their information during the first moments. With this blow an important part of the Peykar organization was disrupted and many of them were arrested. Their supplies, printing presses, financial affairs and communication systems were all connected to this part. The documents discovered, the interorganizational documents show that they had underestimated the Islamic Republic. For example, one of the [words indistinct] for security purposes by their members, they said that although the Islamic Republic officials are not able to discover our organization, as a measure of precaution it is better to follow these security procedures.

This blow really took them by surprise. They had other interorganizational theories about this crisis and analyzed it as being part of the worldwide crisis which communism is going through and not limited to the Peykar organization. They said that communism on a world level was going through a crisis and a part of it was that of the Peykar organization. Of course, these interpretations are classified and only the main members are informed of them.

One of the discovered centers was that for forging government documents, especially coupons. People should note this carefully. Their objective in doing this was profiteering on one hand, selling these coupons for 75 tomans in the streets. On the other hand, they wanted to cause people to be pessimistic toward the Islamic Republic. They intended to create the impression that the government is imposing rationing and then selling coupons in the streets, taking advantage of the situation both ways. This shows that before being a political organization this is a Mafia-type organization, forging coupons and government documents. Forging government documents can be interpreted as not accepting the government, but forging coupons and selling them for 75 tomans to the people shows that they have acted just like gangsters operating on the black markets. On the other hand, while doing this, they told the people that the government coupons are being sold in the streets and that this is a sign of how corrupt the Islamic Republic Government is.

[Question] Following the bombing of southern Lebanon, the Government of Iran announced its position and its support and help for the Lebanese brothers. What kind of help are we going to give them?

[Answer] [passage indistinct] We are very sorry about the conspiracy hatched by Saddam against our country. Because of this attack, our hands are tied. Basically, Saddam's attack on Iran is a part of the general American conspiracy to involve two of the most powerful Muslim armies and practically leave Israel an empty field to carry on with its aggressions to create disasters of the caliber we have witnessed. At the same time we [words indistinct] considering the facilities available to us will do whatever in our power to help. Our Arab brothers are aware of our situation and our capabilities, but we will try to provide our moral support; on a greater scale and financial support, like medical help which we discussed in the Cabinet session today. As soon as possible we will send them a medical team and also, God willing, military aid too. [end recording]

REPORTAGE ON ATTACKS, ARRESTS, EXECUTIONS

Presidential Candidate Attacked

LD201210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] PARS reports that at 0830 this morning, Mr Habibollah Asghar-Oladi, a Tehran deputy in the Islamic Majlis and one of the presidential candidates, was attacked on (Saqqa Bashi) Avenue in Tehran. According to this report, he was superficially wounded in the right hand and received treatment after being transferred to (Sevom-e Sha'ban) Hospital. One of those who made the attempt on his life was killed by Mr Asghar-Oladi's bodyguards; the other two terrorists were arrested, one of whom was injured.

According to the same report, one of the bodyguards was hit in the thigh and shoulder, but his condition is not critical. He is resting in (Sevom-e Sha'ban) Hospital. The spokesman for the Central Islamic Revolution Committee, in contact with PARS, confirmed this report and said that the attackers fired at Mr Asghar-Oladi and his bodyguard from a private car.

Dr Manafi, the minister of health and welfare, in an interview with a PARS reporter commented on the general condition of Mr Asghar-Oladi and said: Thank God, his general condition is satisfactory.

When I visited him there was no cause for worry. The minister of health and welfare, in regard to the injured bodyguards, said: The guard brother who was shot in the thigh and shoulder is currently undergoing surgery. The other guard brother was superficially injured and was treated as an outpatient; his condition is now satisfactory.

Also, the PARS reporter, talking to eyewitnesses at the scene, reported: One of the terrorists fired at Mr Asghar-Oladi and two of his bodyguards from inside the trunk of a yellow Peykan car which was parked in front of Mr Asghar-Oladi's house. Another terrorist was riding a motorcycle and was armed while the third terrorist was hiding in the car. The same report says that shots were fired from a hole drilled in the car's trunk. Mr Asghar-Oladi's bodyguards returned the fire. The other terrorist riding the motorcycle was injured and then arrested. The third person was arrested unharmed.

A relative of Mr Asghar-Oladi told a PARS reporter: For a while now, Mr Asghar-Oladi has been threatened over the telephone by hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] members and this attempt on his life might have resulted from those threats. According to this report, the terrorists were armed with Uzi and G-3's. The same report, quoting another witness, adds: The terrorists' car has been parked in front of Mr Asghar-Oladi's house every day for the past 2 or 3 weeks; the terrorists have been waiting for an opportunity to make their attempt. They took the opportunity today but fortunately this assassination attempt was not successful.

2 Mojahedin Arrested

LD201345 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] According to PARS, thanks to the effective cooperation of the committed and revolutionary people of Quchan and the efforts of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [words indistinct] communal houses [khane-ye timi] of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] were discovered in Quchan. In this connection, (Abolfazl Zera'atkar) and (Hasan Safara), two active members of the organization, were arrested.

According to this report, during an inspection of the discovered houses, the police found about 20 packets of unused stencil paper, a large quantity of Mojahedin [words indistinct] publications, and also [words indistinct] black material and many copies of ENQELAB-E ESLAMI.

15 Sentenced in Estahbanat

GF201638 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] According to our correspondent in Fasa, the Estahbanat Islamic Revolution Court has issued its verdicts in the cases of 15 defendants tried for their role in recent clashes and their connections with the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] who were arrested and delivered to the court (?recently). According to the report, each defendant was sentenced to 90 lashes and 2 months to 5 years in jail. A number who expressed regret were released following posting of bail.

Divandarreh Official Killed

LD201756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Excerpts] According to the Central News Unit, Mr (Najaf Youseri Nowghani), chief of the Divandarreh educational department, has been martyred by antipeople elements in an armed clash.

The Kordestan educational department has released the following statement:

He was martyred last night by the mercenaries of America. His martyrdom will no doubt have a great effect on his followers, who will follow his path in the center of Divandarreh, especially those who were familiar with his struggle and interests.

Yousefi, Ghaffari and [name indistinct], who were martyred on the path of education of the oppressed inhabitants of Kordestan, will be considered as gifts for our Muslim people, gifts which are an indication of the weakness of the devourer enemy. [sentence as heard]

Bazaar Bombing Wounds 3

NC210807 Paris AFP in English 0747 GMT 21 Jul 81

[Text] Tehran, 21 Jul (AFP)--A bomb blast near Tehran bazaar wounded three people and destroyed two cars, the newspaper ISLAMIC REPUBLIC reported today.

It said the bomb, which went off yesterday, had been placed in a bag.

Kurds: 100 Iranian Casualties

JN181837 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Surani Kurdish 1330 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Baneh--Our correspondent in Baneh reports that the peshmerga inflicted painful blows to the suppressive enemy forces on 14 July 1981 and forced this enemy to retreat before them.

In this heroic battle, the peshmerga demonstrated that they are ready to shed their last drop of blood in defense of their people's honor and dignity. Reports reaching us from Baneh yesterday say that more than 100 of the enemy forces were killed or wounded.

Yesterday we reported on this battle and said that in addition to this large number of enemy killed or wounded, the peshmerga seized 1 106-mm fieldgun, 1 Toyota vehicle, 1 [word indistinct] vehicle, 20 [word indistinct] rifles, 10 crates of ammunition and a quantity of war materiel.

The latest reports say that the peshmerga shelled and destroyed one tank, which was taken to town. Two peshmerga, Nasir Rasul Pana and Mahmud [name indistinct], were martyred and joined our people's caravan of martyrs.

The Iranian Kurdish Democratic Party in Baneh requests the Red Crescent Society in Baneh to come as soon as possible to transfer the dead bodies so that they will not spread any disease in this summer heat.

We express our condolences over the martyrdom of two heroic sons of Kordestan who shed their blood in defense of their people. We also express our condolences to their families and all the masses of Kordestan and the peshmerga.

The information media of the regime and its radio and television remained silent regarding this battle because the Kurdish people triumphed.

Radio Iran on Executions

GF201700 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] With the execution of another 10 innocent people in the past 24 hours, the total number of those executed in the current month has reached 220.

Among those executed in the past 24 hours was one young woman in Esfahan and a 14-year-old girl in Kerman. The two were accused of having humane beliefs and were arrested 4 days ago for selling a political group's newspaper.

Their trial did not last more than 5 minutes and their execution order, which was issued by Khomeyni's agents in the guise of shari'ah magistrates, was carried out immediately.

With the continuation of merciless executions of innocent prisoners by the ruling mullahs, the intensity of the attacks of the armed (?resistance) fighters increases daily. In the past 24 hours over 10 guards and known Hezbollahis around the country have been destroyed by the fighters. At around 2300 yesterday a Peykan car carrying four guards was grenaded 12 km outside Amol. All four were killed.

Last night the dormitory of a group of club-wielding Hezbollahis in Rasht was grenaded by the fighters. At least 6 were killed and 10 were wounded. No one was captured in any of the operations.

Fire at Guidance Ministry

GF201655 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] Planting bombs and throwing Molotov cocktails at buildings and institutions of the Islamic Republic continues. The Free Voice correspondent reports from Tehran that last night our combatant compatriots set fire to the printing house of the Ministry of National Guidance with a Molotov cocktail. This printing house was the center of printing and publishing for Khomeyni's anti-Islamic publications.

A number of explosions took place in Tehran and other provinces last night, resulting in severe damage.

Mosque Reportedly Bombed

GF201543 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] Salman Mosque in Shiraz, which is a center for plots and tricks by the authorities and the regime's club-wielding Hezbollahis, has been blown up by a group opposing the regime. The car of Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi, Khomeyni's representative in Shiraz and one of the leaders of the club wielders, was destroyed. He was injured.

It has been reported that the mercenary mullah played an important role in the recent crushing of freedom-seeking people and that Salman Mosque had become the headquarters for antipeople operations, and ammunition dump for the Hezbollahis and a center for deception and decadent propaganda.

Voice of Iran on Explosions

GF191700 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] A wave of explosions has engulfed Tehran and provinces of the country. During the past few days the voice of the regime has avoided broadcasting news on the explosions, and the silence of the Voice of the Islamic Republic, which proudly broadcasts news of executions and murders, shows the confusion of the leadership. Explosions in Tehran have occurred at a number of government buildings and revolution guards and revolution committee headquarters. The combatant groups, which consist of all the discontent Iranians and which the regime and some foreign media are trying to label as leftist, have warned people not to leave their homes very often.

Next week, the start of the false election of the regime, all compatriots will begin their intense struggle in a united front against the government of the infidel mullahs.

Yesterday the Tehran reconstruction crusade center situated on the international exhibition grounds in Tehran was blown up by nationalists. A severe fire resulted. This was the second explosion at this place this week. The mullahs' regime has issued orders not to broadcast reports on the second explosion.

DPA REPORTS MUSLIM STUDENTS' PROTEST IN HAMBURG

LD202009 Hamburg DPA in German 1859 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] Hamburg, 20 Jul (DPA)--About 50 members of the Muslim students' association this morning occupied the Islamic center in Hamburg to protest what they called the mass executions and tortures in Iran. The police said that they had been called in by the imam to clear the building. After the police had carried the students out, about 60 banner-carrying supporters of the students' association continued their protest outside the mosque until evening.

Radio Tehran broadcast a statement by the Iranian Foreign Ministry that a 'group of mercenaries and U.S. stooges' has stormed the Islamic center and mosque in Hamburg, destroyed copies of the Koran and insulted the imam.

Foreign Ministry Protest

LD201728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Statement issued on 20 July by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs]

[Text] Noble Iranian nation: With great regret, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran was informed this afternoon that a number of hypocritical mercenaries and lackeys of America attacked the Islamic center in Hamburg and its mosque and, after destroying copies of the Koran and tearing up the verses [from the Koran] written on placards, insulted the congregational imam of the mosque.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran draws the attention of all Muslim nations to the support and cooperation the German police gave to the blasphemous groups who set fire to the copies of the Koran. We warn that the hostile positions taken by the German police, which certainly could not have been taken without the consent of the government of that country, can deal severe blows to the interests of that country in all Islamic countries. Undoubtedly, the Islamic community throughout the world will not remain silent about the insult directed against the mosque and the glorious Koran.

[Signed] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran

LARESTAN ANNOUNCES MAJLIS BYELECTION CANDIDATES

GF181802 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] The Larestan governor's office announced the names of the candidates for representation in the Islamic Majlis for the Lar district. The names are as follows: Seyyed Mahmud 'Alavi, Dr Mas'ud Baqeri, Dr Asadi Lari and Habibollah Habibi.

In the announcement by the Larestan governor's office, the necessary instructions for the active participation of the people in the elections are also listed.

Tudeh Candidate Dropped

GF201650 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Excerpt] The name of Mr Habibollah Habibi, Tudeh Party candidate for deputy in the Islamic Consultative Assembly from Lar, has been dropped.

SHIRAZ ANNOUNCES BAVANAT CANDIDATE FOR MAJLIS

GF191852 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Four candidates running in the Majlis elections have withdrawn in favor of Fazel Arandi in the constituency of Bavanat and Dehdid. The names of the withdrawing candidates are: Engineer (Neksar), engineer Qorbani, Rezwani and Mas'udi. According to our reporter, Fazel Arandi is the sole candidate left in the said constituency.

PROMINENT CLERGYMEN REPORTEDLY RENOUNCE ELECTION

GF192027 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Three of the great clergymen of the nation, who are true authorities for the world's Shi'ites, have renounced the presidential election. His Great Eminence Ayatollah Seyyed Kazem Shari'atmadari of Qom, His Great Eminence Ayatollah Mohammad Khonsari of Tehran and His Great Eminence Ayatollah Hasan Qomi of Mashhad have announced to their supporters that participating in the presidential elections is not a religious duty. Because of the revelations and guidance of these eminent clergymen, who have revealed the true colors of Ruhollah Khomeyni, who in deceit has declared that participating in the election is a religious duty, it is expected that not even one out of the millions of these true authorities' followers will participate in the elections.

His Great Eminence Ayatollah Hasan Qomi has openly warned that the terrifying situation in the country and the suffocation and merciless oppression of the regime of Ruhollah Khomeyni will cause a civil war in the country. His Eminence Ayatollah Seyyed Kazem Shari'atmadari--who has over 12 million followers--has not received Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the main candidate in the presidential election, who has been trying to obtain his eminence's endorsement. It has been said that His Eminence Ayatollah Shari'atmadari has declared that he will never receive the head of a government of a regime whose hand is stained with blood and treachery.

VOICE OF IRAN ON ENDEAVORS TO FORCE VOTERS

NC171212 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1905 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Text] Last night in Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i's meeting with his cabinet--in addition to that on which the regime's mouthpiece reported--a number of important incidents took place and our special correspondent has dispatched the following report based on information given to him by a source, who doesn't wish to be identified:

After describing the situation on the battlefronts, Raja'i spoke about the elections and said: With the present situation in the country, it is feared that the people will refrain from participation in the elections and a solution should be sought for this.

The foreign minister said: Since there are no U.S. or British news agencies in Tehran, and AFP is under the control of officials, we should not worry about reaction from abroad.

Raja'i said: We are not worried about reaction on reports sent abroad. The people should participate in the elections which are ordered by the imam, if only a small number of voters turn out, the people will discover this and the rumors will start. Something should be done so that the percentage of voters is bigger than in previous elections.

The Cabinet ministers then started extensive discussions on this and the following steps were decided on:

1. Statements should be issued by religious schools and groups affiliated with the government that will, on the basis of the (?orders) of the imam, encourage the people to participate in the elections.

2. The people should be made to understand that nonparticipation in the elections is against the shariah and in opposition to Islam.

3. The revolution guards should be ordered to go to shops, the bazaar and houses on the day of the elections and call on them to vote and, especially, remind them that nonparticipation in the elections will bear grave consequences for them.

4. On the election day and the following one, international telephone lines should be cut. Air flights on the day of the election and on the following day should be stopped so that if the people do not participate in the elections reports on this will not reach abroad.

Even though (?some) of the ministers did not agree with these decisions and expressed concern over the consequences, the majority voted in favor and it was decided to implement all the four points.

DETAILS OF 20 JUL CABINET SESSION REPORTED

LD201230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Excerpt] According to the Central News Unit, the Cabinet held a session this morning--with the recitation of verses from the Koran--chaired by the prime minister.

During this session, the prime minister first submitted a report on the country's current political issues. Then Colonel Fakuri, the defense minister, submitted a report on the bombardment operation at the Dukan powerplant in Iraq, which had been considered one of the most valuable sources of electricity in that country. Fakuri called this attack very successful.

Mr Behzad Nabavi, the minister of state for executive affairs, outlined the favorable effects of the economic mobilization headquarters efforts on the reduction of the inflarate from 22 May-22 June as compared with the previous months.

Mr Hoseyn Musavi, the minister of foreign affairs, briefed the other Cabinet members on the propaganda by mercenary international broadcasting and press machinery, which has been accelerated because of the forthcoming fateful presidential and Majlis elections on 25 July. Mr Musavi also briefed the Cabinet members on issues concerning Persian Gulf countries and their policies regarding the war imposed by the Ba'thist Iraq on our country.

SUPREME DEFENSE COUNCIL HOLDS SESSION 20 JUL

LD202214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, the Supreme Defense Council held a session this afternoon under the chairmanship of the prime minister.

At this session, which was attended by Messrs Musavi Ardabili, president of the Supreme Court and member of the Provisional Presidential Council; Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and member of the Provisional Presidential Council; Brigadier General Fallahi, acting chief of the Joint Staff; Colonel Fakuri, minister of defense and commander of the air force; Colonel Namju, the representative of the imam on the Supreme Defense Council; and Kamal Gharrazi [director general of PARS], issues related to the southern fronts, recent victories in the west of the country and certain projects for the future were discussed.

According to the same report, at this session approval was given for the minister of foreign affairs to attend the sessions of the Supreme Defense Council on a permanent basis.

MUSAVI DISCUSSES ISRAELI ATTACKS WITH SYRIAN ENVOY

GF201244 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] The Syrian ambassador in Tehran, Ibrahim Al-Musifi [name as heard], has lauded the Islamic Republic of Iran's stand toward the aggressions the Zionist entity has committed against southern Lebanon. He said the Iranian Foreign Ministry's statement and Iran's support for the Arab Deterrent Forces and the Syrian brothers are evident indications of the Islamic revolution's firm and decisive stand and its aid to the oppressed people of the region.

The laudatory remarks came during a meeting between the Syrian ambassador in Tehran and Foreign Minister Hoseyn Musavi. While reaffirming the Muslim and revolutionary Iranian people's support for the Syrian brothers concerning the Zionist attacks, he said that despite the fact that Iran is engaged in a war the Saddamist regime has imposed on it, the Muslim Iranian people will not rest until dear Jerusalem has been liberated and returned to the lap of Islam.

RAFSANJANI MESSAGE TO 'ARAFAT ON ISRAELI RAIDS

GF201520 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text of message addressed to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and to the Palestinians and Lebanese on Israeli attacks against southern Lebanon--date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brother Yasir 'Arafat and all Palestinian and Lebanese brothers:

The savage attack the usurper Zionist entity has committed against Lebanon, the killing and wounding of about 2,000 people, and the destruction of many large residential quarters is an indelible brand of shame on the brow of Western imperialism and reaction in the Middle East, especially the Islamic governments which are agents of the bloodsucking West. This ugly crime shatters the pretexts of the bargain dealers in the region and calls on everyone to adopt the initiative of Jihad. The aggressive nature of the United States and its bastard, the Zionist entity, is known to everyone. There is no need to reveal it anew. All Muslims and Arabs have to know is that the United States and the Zionist entity are not the only culprits. Rather, the governments who are ruling their peoples in the name of Islam and are preparing for U.S. domination of the region are accomplices in this crime.

The West is keeping warm with the Muslims' oil. The life of the colonialists depends to a great extent on the resources and the wealth of the Muslim countries. Despite this need, imperialism is fully and unconditionally supporting a sanguine enemy in this region. It is also encouraging violence and blackmail.

If all Muslim countries followed the line of the Iranian Revolution and its stand on the Zionist entity and the United States, their condition would be different from that of today. By curtailing oil exports, Iran has raised the price of this priceless material from $12 per barrel to $36 at a time when others--by increasing production--have satisfied the market and thus aided the imperialists. By allying with imperialism and by supporting Camp David, reaction has left the Palestinian people alone, thus rendering them victims of the joint conspiracy of imperialism and reaction. On this heinous crime, the Islamic countries issue statements and condemn aggression while the enemy confidently plans and commits new aggressions. The most regrettable thing is that Saddam at-Tikriti, by committing his aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran, has engaged our revolutionary forces which could be confronting the Zionist aggression.

I express condolences to the families of all victimes of this crime and beseech God to guide the Islamic countries to their responsibilities.

I hope that this appalling crime will be a cause for Muslim vigilance and a turning point in the history of dear Palestine toward the victory of the Palestinian people and the expulsion of the aggressors. I am fully confident that the heroic and oppressed Palestinian people will find their salvation amid the ruins through real Islam.

[Signed] Majlis Speaker 'Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani

FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES STATEMENT ON OTTAWA SUMMIT

GF202003 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic issued a statement today on the meeting of the industrial countries currently being held in Ottawa, the Canadian capital. The statement says that this is not the first time the leaders of the industrialized countries have met to discuss means to remove difficulties or fill the gap between the developed and the developing countries. However, it is regrettable that such meetings have always been futile for the world's destitute and oppressed people. The statement stresses that the Islamic Republic of Iran considers Islamic law the only method capable of guaranteeing social justice all over the world and of ensuring human happiness as well as removing disagreements and differences among the people.

The Foreign Ministry statement adds that the hope to eliminate unjust relations between the industrial countries and the destitute nations will remain a mere mirage so long as the strong industrial countries maintain the world's current economic situation.

The statement says the dominating countries in the world, particularly the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, are currently competing in an arms race more fiercely than at any other time. They are increasing their military expenditure at the expense of the developing countries. This consequently depletes the superpowers' national resources which should be used to improve the living conditions and to comfort people of the developing countries. Therefore, the Islamic Republic of Iran unconditionally calls for a halt to this arms race and the stockpiling of destructive weapons. The world's dominant countries, particularly the superpowers, are pursuing their interests and their imperialist goals. They are also trying by any means to impose their influence and hegemony by linking these countries to their military alliances. That is why all these military alliances must be abolished with everything associated with them.

The statement of the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran says that the unjust international distribution of wealth constitutes one reason for the economic imbalance between nations. So long as this situation continues, we cannot expect the wide gap between the developed and the deprived countries to be filled. Moreover, so long as the superpowers continue to adopt their imperialist policy of dividing countries into spheres of influence, then not only will the hope of ending the prevailing conditions fade, but also the phenomenon of deprivation will become more severe every day.

The statement urges the oppressed people of the world to bolster their unified front to break the domination of imperialism and to stop imperialist plundering and exploitation throughout the world.

JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 575 REPORTS SUCCESSES

LD201755 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Communique 575 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. Dear Muslim compatriots of Iran: Part of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran's operations and the situation at the battlefronts in the last 24 hours are as follows:

In the last 24 hours constant heavy-artillery exchanges continued along all the western fronts. On the Nowsud, Paveh, Konjancham, Kan-e Sakht and Shur-e Shirin fronts, the exchanges were quite intense.

Gendarmerie forces fiercely answered the enemy's fire on the Nowsud and Shur-e Shirin fronts.

West of Dezful, following the army's heavy-artillery fire, a number of Iraqi personnel were killed or wounded, and three ammunition dumps and five enemy machinegun trenches were set on fire and destroyed.

On the Abadan and Khuninshahr fronts, our forces continuously shelled enemy positions, destroying 2 enemy tanks, 1 personnel carrier, 12 ammunition dumps and a truck carrying enemy personnel.

On the Mahshahr-Abadan-Darkhovin-As-Sulaymaniyah fronts, our artillery fire destroyed one enemy ammunition dump, two foxholes and two trucks carrying Iraqi personnel.

The naval forces shelled the occupied sector of Khuninshahr and destroyed three enemy observation posts, one assembly point and one personnel carrier and killed seven Iraqis.

Yesterday on the Ahvaz, Susangerd and other southern fronts, constant artillery exchanges continued. In the afternoon army combatants brought the Iraqi positions around (?'Erqabiyeh) under heavy-artillery and mortar fire, halting any enemy movement and killing or wounding a number of Iraqis.

Yesterday parts of the city of Abadan were shelled by the enemy's long-range artillery, killing two Abadan residents, wounding a number of others and damaging some houses.

Also, part of the city of Ahvaz was brought under enemy fire which resulted in some losses and casualties.

In the last 24 hours any movement by enemy fighter aircraft on the southern and western fronts was halted by Iranian antiaircraft units.

In the battle on 18 July six self-sacrificing personnel of the army and three gendarmerie personnel achieved the lofty rank of martyrdom. Peace upon their souls and long live their memories.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

VOICE OF IRAN ON TUDEH PARTY'S ROLE IN REGIME

GF201426 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] What is the role of the Tudeh Party in Khomeyni's regime? Is his regime aware of the nature and philosophy of the Tudeh Party? Have the leaders of the Tudeh Party and the Government of the Soviet Union--which manages the Tudeh Party--planned and begun implementing a special plan for the regime? Our commentary this hour will familiarize our esteemed listeners with the secrets of these events.

The Tudeh Party of Iran learned bitter lessons from events beginning in 1941, followed by the events of the 1950's, and finally the revelation of its military organization to the Iranian Army. The Soviet Government changed its old strategy of establishing a communist puppet regime in Iran. The Tudeh Party played an effective secret role in bringing Khomeyni's regime to power. Fifteen years ago, on the basis of orders from their masters, the Tudehis planted a large number of "theological students" in the clerical classes. They also played an effective role in the unrest of 1978.

Khomeyni and his allies still do not know who these turbaned communists, involved in his Islamic Consultative Assembly, his government and other government organizations of the Islamic regime, are. It is not necessary for them to know. The Tudeh Party offered alliance to Khomeyni and assured him of the use of all its agents. It also promised to use the powerful Soviet information organizations to inform Khomeyni of all plots against and all resistance toward his government. The Tudeh Party obtained the regime's trust by passing on information in which the regime was interested, even though it was not completely accurate.

For nearly 1 month now, secret reports from Kianuri's office have been passed weekly to Khomeyni's office. This information used to be given to Bani-Sadr. The secret report is divided into various sections labeled top secret, secret and confidential. It contains information gathered by Tudeh members around the country concerning the activities of antiregime groups inside the country and abroad, names of the people working against the regime, tribal movements and other such information. The Soviet Embassy in Tehran reads the reports first and, after adding or subtracting certain parts, gives permission for its transfer to Khomeyni's office by the Tudeh Party. By passing such reports to the Iranian regime, the party managed to gain the trust of Khomeyni, other mullahs and those in power.

Mixed with the information has been some that is false and confusing. Such false but very important looking information has in many cases resulted in immediate decisions by the government. The Tudeh Party carries this out on the orders of its masters so that the regime, committing foolish acts, murders and criminal actions, as well as by its stupid chants, loses face around the world while Iran is brought closer to the precipice and complete disorder. The Tudeh Party and its puppet leaders--who act only on the orders of their masters and have to carry this mission without [word indistinct]--are doing their best to lead Iran toward a confused, crushed and [word indistinct] society. The Tudeh Party is preparing the ground for the fall of the nation with such service to the authorities in the regime and Khomeyni personally so that, as (Khrushchev) put it, it will fall into Soviet hands like a rotten apple

On the other hand, the Tudeh Party, by establishing party offices aroung the country and using them for the political education of workers, youths and school and university students, is trying to establish the basis of a communist society by grassroots education. The teachings of the Tudeh Party, which are based on books designed for the Asian republics of the Soviet Union, Iran's neighbors to the north, are suited to various levels of knowledge and understanding of the student. The propaganda of the Tudehis in their discussion sessions is disseminated by teachers who have been picked from various classes and given prior preparation.

According to this master plan of the Tudeh Party, faithful members were recently ordered to make their male children volunteer for various military colleges. The plan will be put into operation this fall.

The above information is for the information of the noble people of Iran concerning the plots of the Khomeynis and the Tudehis for the complete destruction of the Iranian nation. Dear listeners, you will no longer be surprised about why the Tudeh Party ordered its members to support Khomeyni's chosen candidate for this ridiculous presidential election.

Will you noble people of Iran continue to remain silent? Will you allow the feeble-minded Khomeyni and his criminal allies to choose your president, head of government, ministers and deputies with the help of treacherous members of the Tudeh Party and rule in your name? If you are waiting for a miracle, you should know that such a great miracle will only be brought about by you, and it should be brought about as soon as possible.

RADIO IRAN CRITICIZES BAZARGAN LETTER TO KHOMEYNI

NC211105 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Bazargan, that dreg of a rotten faction with Islamic tendencies and a nationalist facade that rendered the strongest blow to the name of the late Mossadeq in the name of the National Front, has once again written a letter to the imam of the umma in which he speaks about the "deliverance of dear Islam"--that is the choice thing brought to Iran by Khomeyni--and complains that "the revolution has been lost." Bazargan wrote: This open letter should indeed have been read aloud in your presence.

However, this gentleman knows that as soon as he stepped into the auspicious presence of the imam in Jamaran, he would be imprisoned and tried in the regime's 10-minute courts. This is why he xeroxed the letter and sent it to his leader.

Bazargan is amazed that Khomeyni said in his speech that "those who oppose Islam should go to America, Europe and Paris" and, of course, this Paris-educated engineer-who was sent abroad for education with the alms of the Iranian nation--knows that if he steps anywhere in the world except in the ruin that Khomeyni has made, he will face the wrath of the patriotic Iranian nation.

In his letter, Bazargan once again spoke about the rarity--Islam--brought by Khomeyni, about the rebellion imposed by Huyser and people like Ramsey Clark and Richard Kaplan--his old friend at the U.S. Embassy--in the name of revolution, and continues to talk about this bogus revolution that is being ridiculed by the entire world. But he does not say that this was not a revolution but a play previously written by spy organizations, cast by the intelligence service and acted with the participation of the intelligence service, the CIA, oil companies and people like himself, Bani-Sadr, Qotbzadeh, Yazdi, Sanjabi, Foruhar and their like. He does not say that the last scene will be played either today or tomorrow and that the curtain will then fall and realities will surface.

Even if Bazargan calls Khomeyni "the great leader of the revolution" and even though he continues to believe that this revolution has glorified Iran, has made Iran's economy flourish and has brought Iran out of isolation, he should nevertheless know that, God willing, it will not be long before we will witness a national and popular court in which traitors will answer to the Iranian nation in a new Nuremberg on why they so tyrannically participated in killings and brought a flourishing Iran to ruin. Bazargan and his like should start formulating today answers they will give to the rightful and oppressed Iranian nation.